

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed July 22, 2008.

Claims 70-78, 81-84, 86-99 and 103-110 were pending in the present application and rejected.

Claims 86, 88, and 89 have been amended. Applicant submits that no new subject matter has been introduced by the amendments. Claims 87, 96-99, and 110 have been canceled without prejudice. Claims 70-78, 81-84, 86, 88-95, and 103-109 remain pending in this application after entry of this response.

Confirmation of Allowed/Rejected Claims

Upon review of the Office Action dated July 22, 2008, Applicant noted a discrepancy between the claims that were indicated as allowed and claims indicated as rejected (e.g., claims 96-99 and 105 were indicated as allowed and also rejected). Applicant accordingly placed a call to Examiner Salad to clarify which claims were allowed and rejected. During the telephone discussion the Examiner confirmed that the following claims are allowed:

- (1) Independent claim 70 and its dependent claims 71-78, 81-84 and 103;
- (2) Independent claim 91 and its dependent claims 92-95 and 104; and
- (3) Independent claim 105 and its dependent claims 106-109.

The Examiner indicated that claim 105 was incorrectly indicated as rejected in the Office Action.

The Examiner also confirmed that claims 86, 90, 96-99 and 110 are rejected. Claims 87-89 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 70-78, 81-84, 91-95, 103-109

These claims are allowed.

Claims 86-90

Claim 86 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Logan et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,578,066) (hereinafter "Logan") in view of Brown et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,195,691) (hereinafter "Brown").

Claims 87-89 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Applicant has amended claim 86 to include the features recited in claim 87. Claim 86 thus represents claim 87 rewritten in independent form. Applicant submits that amended claim 86 is now in a condition for allowance. Claim 87 has accordingly been canceled without prejudice. Claims 88 and 89 have been amended to properly depend from claim 86. Applicant submits that claim 86 and its dependent claims 88, 89, and 90 are now in a condition for allowance.

Claims 96-99 and 110

Claims 96-99 and 110 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Logan et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,578,066) (hereinafter "Logan") in view of Brown et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,195,691) (hereinafter "Brown").

Solely for purposes of expedited prosecution, Applicant has canceled claims 96-99 and 110 without prejudice. Applicant reserves the right to prosecute the canceled claims in continuation applications.

Amendments to the Claims

Unless otherwise specified, amendments to the claims are made for purposes of clarity, and are not intended to alter the scope of the claims or limit any equivalents thereof. The amendments are supported by the Specification as filed and do not add new matter.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,

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